Export of Cotton under open General Licence System

1305. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering putting export of cotton under O.G.L.;

(b) if so, the quantity permitted to be exported during the year 1997;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the quota for export of cotton during the next financial year; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the price paid to farmers for producing cotton at present is not adequate?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) There is no prospoal to put the export of cotton under OGL. However, a quantity of 12.20 lakh bales of cotton has been released for export during the current cotton season 1996-97.

(c) Release of cotton export quota is decided by the Government after taking into consideration all relevant factors including estimates of cotton productiion, domestic requirement, exportable surplus, price trend, etc. 12.20 lakh bales have so far been allowed for export in the current cotton year (Oct. 96-Sept. 97).

(d) The market prices of staple cotton are ruling well above the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) announced by the Government.

कपास की कीमत में कमी

1306. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि हाल ही में कपास की कीमत में भारी कमी आई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार किसानों की दयनीय दशा को देखते हुए कपास का समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ाएगी;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने कपास के मूल्यों में वृद्धि होने पर इन मूल्यों को स्थिर रखने के उद्देश्य से कपास का आयात किया;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार कपास के मूल्यों में कमी को रोकने के लिए इसका निर्यात करने का विचार रखती है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो कब तक?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री आर० एल० जालप्पा): (क) और (ख) बंगाल देशी किस्म की कपास को छोड़कर कपास की बाजार कीमतें सरकार द्वारा घोषित न्यूनतम समर्थन कीमतों से काफी ऊपर बनी हुई हैं।

(ग) न्यूनतम समर्थन कीमतों का निर्धारण सभी संबद्ध कारकों पर ध्यान देने के बाद किया जाता है। कपास की न्यूनतम समर्थन कीमतों में परिवर्तन करने पर विचार नहीं किया जा रहा है।

(घ) से (च) सरकार कपास के उत्पादन के अनुमान, उपलब्धता, खपत, संभावित बेशी, कीमत प्रवृत्तियों आदि सहित सभी संबंद्ध कारकों पर विचार करने के बाद कपास उपजकर्ताओं की सहायता के लिए समय-समय पर कपास के निर्यात कोटे को रिलीज करने की घोषणा करती है। चालू कपास मौसम में 12.20 लाख गांठों का कोटा रिलीज किया गया है।

कपास का आयात शून्य आयात शुल्क पर खुला सामान्य लाइसेंस (ओजीएल) के अंतर्गत किया जाता है। आयात अग्रिम लाइसेंस योजना के अंतर्गत अथवा शत-प्रतिशत निर्यातोन्मुख एककों द्वारा अथवा वस्त्र मिलों द्वारा किया जाता है ताकि विशिष्ट गुणवत्ता संबंधी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा किया जा सके। यह संबंधित कीमत, मांग तथा पूर्ति की स्थिति पर निर्भर करता है।

Release of Fund Towards the Salaries of NTC Workers

1307. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Textile Mill workers are not getting wages from the last three months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to take a sympathetic approach towards staff of the sick PSU and continue releasing funds for salaries and wages?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) Government has been meeting the shortfall faced by NTC in payment of wages, salaries and bonus to its workers and employees, pending approval of the revised Turn Around Plan by the BIFR and its implementation. During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 303 crores has been released to NTC as non-plan loan for payment of wages, salaries and bonus upto December, 1996.

Export of Readymade Garments

1308. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of readymade garments exported during the last three years;

(b) whether the negative growth witnessed during December, 1996 will effect this year's export target;

(c) if so, the details; and

(d) the target fixed for 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) The approximate quantum of readymade garments exported during the last three years have been as follows:—

Year	Quantity (In lakh pieces)
1993-94	9,280
1994-95	9,924
1995-96	10,982

(b) and (c) The negative growth in garment exports during the month of December, 1996 is not likely to affect the overall achievement during 1996-97.

(d) The export targets for 1997-98 are yet to be fixed.

Setting up of Powerloom Service Centres in Gujarat

1309. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKAR DAVE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the powerloom service centres set up in the country during the last five years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that only two centres has been set up in Gujarat during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(c) whether it is a fact that Gujarat being the biggest centre in powerloom sector, there is a need to set up more powerloom service centres in the State;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to set up more such centres in Gujarat;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (f) During the Eighth Five Year Plan the following Powerlooms Service Centres have been openend:—

S. No.	Year	Name of Place	Name of State
1.	1992-93	Bangalore	Karnataka
2.	1992-93	Komarapalayam	Tamil Nadu
3.	1992-93	Dholka	Gujarat
4.	1993-94	Sachin	Gujarat
5.	1993-94	Betagiri	Karnataka
6.	1993-94	Huzurabad (Karimnagar)	Andhra Pradesh
7.	1993-94	Bhiwandi	Maharashtra
8.	1994-95	Alwar	Rajasthan
9.	1994-95	Salem	Tamil Nadu